National Weather Service
Product Description Document (PDD)
Experimental Product
April, 2013

Southern Region Mapping API Widget/Smartphone Web Page

Part 1 - Mission Connection

   1. Service Description:

> *This tool is meant to help developers and offices across the region to take advantage of the addition of a standardized, advanced mapping interface to new or existing web pages in order to display GIS information with very little development or implementation effort.*

> *This tool has the additional benefit of working well in a wide range of smartphones currently in use. This would, for the first time, bring advanced mapping interfaces directly to the mobile web browsers of the NWS's customers.*

   2. Purpose/Intended Use:

> *A frequent complaint from our partners is the lack of consistency from page to page across the NWS's web presence. This tool would bring a consistent look and functionality of mapping interfaces to web pages across the agency, while still allowing the important ability to allow for customized layers/data that our offices need to serve the specialized needs of our diverse customer base.*

   3. Audience:

> *Because of the customization options of this tool and its ability to show any combination of geospatial data, the audience base is wide: ranging from the general public to our core customers.*

   4. Presentation Format:

> *The tool has two primary presentation options:*
>   i   *embedded within a PC-based (non-mobile) web page*
>   ii   *stand-alone in a mobile/smartphone web browser*

5. Feedback Method:

Web-based feedback from the broader community will be sought via an NWS customer survey link on the ERTool web site beginning in mid August 2013 and ending on March 19, 2014, at which time a decision to proceed with testing, revise the test, or to continue on the path to operational production and expansion to other offices will be made.

Comments or suggestions for the ERTool will be directed to:

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Users can also provide feedback with this survey:

www.nws.noaa.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=MAPAPIWS

Part 2 – Technical

1. Format and Science Basis:

All pages are built using HTML 5 and JavaScript, leveraging the open source jQuery and the adaptive design (dynamically adapting from PC to mobile devices) Twitter Bootstrap framework. They are built on a foundation of HTML to ensure compatibility with a wide range of web-enabled devices.

2. Availability:

This tool will be made available on the Southern Region webfarm. It will be available for use by all SR WFOs. After evaluation, it can be expanded to other Regions.

Currently, the widget is located on 2 webpages in SR:

CWSU Fort Worth: http://www.srh.noaa.gov/fwd/?n=support&lat=31.80&lon=-97.09&zoom=2&loc=mcle

WFO Jacksonville: *http://www.srh.noaa.gov/jax/?n=aviation*